(ग) यदि हां, तो इसका निर्माण कार्य कब प्रारंभ हो जायेगा ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी०के० जाफर शरीफ): (क) और (ख) जी, हां ।

(ग) और (घ) विदिशा में विश्राम गृह सुविधा की व्यवस्था से संबंधित कार्य पहले ही स्वीकृत किया जा चुका है तथा इसे चालू वित्त वर्ष के दौरान ही शुरू किया जायेगा ।

Manjundappa Panel Recommendation Economy in the Railway

3778. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Nanjundappa Panel on Railways freight and fares has suggested a 2 per cent cut in the workforce and retrenchment of about 40,000 workers to make the orgaisation economically viable;

(b) if so, what is the response of Government to this recommendation; and

(c) what is being done to improve the economic efficiency of the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Nanjundappa Committee Report on Railway Fare and Freight has suggested a cut of 2 per cent per annum in the workforce but there is no proposal for retrenchment of 40,000 workers.

(b) The workforce on Indian Railways is being maintained as per the need at individual activity centres units. The surrender and creation of posts and changes in the force is a continuous process arising out of closure of redundant activities, upgradation in the technology and improvement in services to travelling public.

(c) To improve the economic viability of the Railways, three fold action to cover enhancement of earnings, control of costs and improved productivity of assets is being continuously taken. Some of the salient measures taken are monitoring of manpower strength, improvement of wagon turn round and diesel|electric loco kilometres for better asset utilisation, adoption of mechanised track maintenance, simplifying work procedures rationalisation of material procurement, promotion of inter-model container service, Computerised Budget formulation and Control monthly review of earnings and expenditure, introduction of cost and profit centres etc.

Touts in and around railway reservation centres in Delhi

3779. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that touts and unauthorised agents have cornered large number of reservation and if so, what steps are being taken to flush these touts from Railway booking offices in Delhi;

(b) how many raids Railway Vigilence, Railway Protection Force and other agencies conducted during the last three years at Railway Ticket Booking Counters at various places in the capital to detect and smash organised racketeering in railway booking and blackmarketing of railway tickets;

(c) the number of employees arrested/chargesheeted for aiding this racket stating the names, designations, the charges levelled, action taken and the punishment awarded;

(d) whether Government would conduct periodic review of the situation at the highest level; and

(e) whether Government would take steps to clear railway stations of touts and unauthorised persons in Delhi during the summer rush; if so, the details thereof?